

## CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

### 2008 WMA Base Funding Work Plan

**Member of Alameda / Contra Costa WMA**

**Title: Weed Control / Eradication**

***January 1, 2009 – December 31, 2009***

**Contract Lead Group Information:**

Group: Contra Costa County Dept. of Agriculture., Contact: Vince Guise, Title: Agriculture Commissioner, Phone: 925-646-5250, Email: [vguis@ag.cccounty.us](mailto:vguis@ag.cccounty.us), Mailing Address: 2366-A Stanwell Circle, Concord, CA 94520.

**Project Manager (contact for reporting and invoicing) and contact information:**

Name: Cathy Roybal, Title: Chief Deputy Agriculture Commissioner, phone: 925-646-5250, email address: [croyb@ag.cccounty.us](mailto:croyb@ag.cccounty.us), mailing address: 2366-A Stanwell Circle, Concord, CA 94520.

**WMA Group affiliation:** Alameda / Contra Costa WMA (A Two County WMA Group)

**Please confirm: All projects described in this work plan will be in one contract with (if more than one contract is desired, please describe here):** Issue one contract for this separate work plan and budget, as directed. (A dual county WMA group)

**Time Period:** January 1, 2009 through June 2009 and July 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009.

**Project Objectives:**

The Contra Costa County entity of the Alameda/Contra Costa County Weed Management Area (ACCCWMA) will focus during the year on eradicating certain noxious weeds throughout Contra Costa County on designated private and public lands. To accomplish tasks as outlined below, Contra Costa County will be using existing staff and partnering with public and private property owners.

**Privately owned ranches:**

1. The Department of Agriculture will survey and treat artichoke thistle (*Cynara cardunculus*), and purple star thistle (*Centaurea calcitrapa*,) on a 458 acre privately owned property called Palos Colorados located in Moraga. The property is estimated to be infested approximately 55% with both artichoke thistle and purple star thistle. We will survey and treat the area using existing methods and materials starting in February and will continue until all known infestations have been treated. ATV's along with 3 gallon backpack sprayers will be used to enhance treatment efficiency for small infestations in addition to 200 gallon truck-mounted spray rigs to treat large infestations. Possible aerial applications may be utilized in remote areas with heavy infestations.
2. The Department will survey and treat oblong spurge (*Euphorbia oblongata*); on **designated** private property **throughout the county** and on public right-of-way that is a threat to private and public open space. A majority of this work will occur within a portion of the Alhambra Creek watershed along Franklin Canyon Road in Martinez.

Three-gallon backpack sprayers will be used along with the most effective material. The work will begin in March and continue through June or until all **known** designated properties infestations have been treated.

***Public property:***

1. The Department of Agriculture will survey and treat Purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*), in the Walnut Creek/Pacheco watershed. The Walnut Creek/Pacheco Slough is the property of Contra Costa County Flood Control. There are several creeks that drain into the Walnut Creek/Pacheco Slough, Reliez Creek, Las Trampas Creek and Las Juntas Creek drains into Walnut Creek. The majority of the infestation is north of Hwy 4 on the Pacheco Slough. There is an estimated 1 net acre of Purple loosestrife throughout the watershed system. Some surveys have already been conducted where 15 miles of Reliez Creek, Las Trampas Creek, Las Juntas Creek, Walnut Creek and Pacheco Slough have been surveyed. Survey and treatment will begin in mid-June and finish in late summer. CDFA equipment, (kayak), will be used to assist with navigating the waterways to gain access to remote islands that have existing and new infestations along with 3 gallon backpack sprayers and material. Additional surveys will be conducted upstream.
2. The Department will survey and treat artichoke thistle and purple star thistle on public property, such as, City of Walnut Creek open space, City of Concord open space, Contra Costa Water District Los Vaqueros watershed and the East Bay Regional Park District (EBRP). The Department will use existing staff along with existing methods and registered materials. The workload will start in February and continue through June. ATV's will be used to enhance treatment efficiency along with 3 gallon backpack sprayers for spot spraying individual plants for small infestations and 200 gallon truck-mounted spray rigs for large infestations.

**Equipment:**

All Terrain Vehicles (ATV) along with 3 gallon backpack sprayers will be used for surveying and treating expansive acreage looking for small infestations. Wooden boxes have been constructed to attach to the rack system of the ATV's to carry 2.5 gallon water jugs and registered herbicides. 200 gallon truck-mounted spray rigs with a 300' hose and 3-nozzle boom will be utilized for large infestations.

**Mapping:**

See attached map for current weed locations. There are two maps of public open space, one that has the general locations of the park within the county identified in green and an identical map with the name of the parks. The Purple loosestrife (PLS) map has the existing known locations indicated with a red star. The Franklin Canyon Oblong spurge sites are marked with yellow stars and the Palos Colorados map is highlighted in yellow. All areas treated and surveyed will be displayed on a map that will be submitted to all WMA partners and CDFA at the completion of the project.

**Reporting:**

Each property is identified with a unique number coding system. Each treatment is recorded into an ACCESS database with the following information: Date of application, applicator's initials, materials used along with the amount, method, net acres, gross acres and hours. Each property can be queried with the designated I.D. number which in turn will provide a summary of work that had occurred on that property during a designated period of time. This data can be manipulated into another format if requested. A project report will be submitted at the completion of the contract and will include the previous years' data to show progress of each property listed plus digital photographs.